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Message Text

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43
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 BIB-01 SS-15 DHA-02 SSO-00 CCO-00 PA-01

PRS-01 USIE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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DRAFTED BY EUR:JAARMITAGE:LM
APPROVED BY M - LAWRENCE S. EAGLEBURGER
BIB - MR. WALTER ROBERTS
S/S - MR. ORTIZ
---------- 075153
Z R 131641Z FEB 76 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA FLASH
AMCONSUL MUNICH IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION USBERLIN

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AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY VIENNA PASS TO SALZBURG IMMEDIATE

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT:RFE ACCREDITATION TO WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES

1. YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE ACTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC COMMITTEE IN WITHDRAWING ACCREDITATION FROM THE
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CORRESPONDENT OF RADIO FREE EUROPE. THIS IS A CRAVEN

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CAPITULATION TO THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES AND I WANT EVERY ACTION TAKEN THAT IS NECESSARY TO HAVE THIS ACCREDITATION RESTORED. I HAVE SENT THE MESSAGE IN PARA TWO ORALLY TO JULIAN ROOSEVELT AND PHILIP CRUM AND YOU SHOULD SEE THAT THEY ALSO HAVE IT IN WRITING. DAVE ABSHIRE HAS SENT SIMILAR MESSAGES TO LORD KILLANIN AND NON-COMMUNIST MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (TEXTS BY SEPTEL). HOW YOU PROCEED TO TURN THE COMMITTEE'S DECISION AROUND YOU WILL HAVE TO JUDGE ON THE SPOT BUT YOU SHOULD GIVE ROOSEVELT AND CRUM EVERY ASSISTANCE NEEDED TO GET IT DONE.

2. TEXT OF MESSAGE TO MR. JULIAN K. ROOSEVELT, U.S. MEMBER, INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (COPY TO PHILIP C. CRUM, PRESIDENT, U.S. OLYMPIC COMMITTEE). IT HAS JUST COME TO MY ATTENTION THAT THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE HAS WITHDRAWN THE ACCREDITATION OF THE CORRESPONDENT OF RADIO

FREE EUROPE TO COVER THE WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES AND HAS NOT YET TAKEN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION TO RESTORE THOSE CREDENTIALS IN RESPONSE TO REQUESTS FROM THE BOARD OF INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING THAT IT DO SO. IT FURTHER APPEARS THAT THE RADIO'S ACCREDITATION WAS WITHDRAWN IN RESPONSE TO CRUDE POLITICAL PRESSURE FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF CERTAIN COMMUNIST COUNTRIES AND THAT THIS ACTION IS BEING JUSTIFIED ON SPURIOUS GROUNDS CONSISTENT WITH THE LINE BEING TAKEN ON THE MATTER IN THE COMMUNIST PRESS.

I VIEW THE WITHDRAWAL OF RFE'S ACCREDITATION AS A TOTALLY UNWARRANTED AND UNSUPPORTABLE ACTION AND A CAPITULATION TO BLATANT COMMUNIST EFFORTS TO MAKE OLYMPIC ACTIVITIES SERVE THEIR POLITICAL PURPOSES. RADIO FREE EUROPE IS OPERATED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF AN OFFICIAL UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AGENCY, THE BOARD FOR INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING, AND FINANCED BY THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS. ITS CORRESPONDENTS HAVE BEEN ACCREDITED TO AND COVERED THE OLYMPIC GAMES SINCE 19;2. IT IS A RECOGNIZED INTERNATIONAL MEDIUM WITH AN INTER-NATIONAL AUDIENCE OF TENS OF MILLIONS OF PEOPLE. TO DENY THIS AUDIENCE ACCESS TO THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

GAMES WOULD BE TOTALLY CONTRARY TO THE SPIRIT AND INTENT OF THE OLYMPICS WHICH SHOULD MAKE THE WORLD AN OPEN COMMUNITY FOR THIS OCCASION. IT WOULD ALSO BE CONTRARY TO THE INTENT AND SPIRIT OF THE FINAL ACT SIGNED AT HELSINKI, A MAJOR PURPOSE OF WHICH IS TO ENCOURAGE AND EXPAND COMMUNICATIONS AND INTERCHANGE AMONG THE SIGNATORY NATIONS.

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I WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD IMMEDIATELY
CONVEY THIS EXPRESSION OF MY CONCERN TO THE PRESIDENT
AND MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE. THE
ACCREDITATION OF RADIO FREE EUROPE SHOULD BE IMMEDIATELY
RESTORED. EVEN AT THIS LATE DATE THIS ACTION IS
NECESSARY LEST THE WINTER GAMES CLOSE WITH THIS
UNACCEPTABLE PRECEDENT UNREMEDIED. I HAVE INFORMED
AMBASSADOR BUCHANAN OF THIS MESSAGE AND YOU MAY CALL
UPON HIM FOR ANY ASSISTANCE NEEDED TO ACHIEVE RESULTS.

HENRY A. KISSINGER

INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 13 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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TAGS: SOPN, US, IOC, INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE, RFE, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (ROOSEVELT, JULIAN K)
To: VIENNA MUNICH
Type: TE
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